



For Immediate Release

Easton, MD – April 12, 2023

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County Manager

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410-770-8010

Talbot County Council Meeting Highlights, Tuesday, April 11, 2023

These highlights only reflect the business items covered from the Council's approved agenda. To view the complete County Council meeting, please visit: Talbot County Meeting Videos - Talbot County, Maryland (www.talbotcountymd.gov).

Proclamation – “Talbot Day” – April 25, 2023 – The Council issued a proclamation designating April 25, 2023 as “Talbot Day” and encouraged community leaders, the school community, arts community, faith community, historical community, business community and all Talbot County citizens to recognize and commemorate the County’s birthday on April 25, 2023 in a manner they deem appropriate. Mr. Stepp, sponsor of the proclamation, provided comments about the purpose of the proclamation and stated the intent is to have a positive event and bring unity to Talbot County. Mr. Stepp invited the audience members to accept the proclamation.

Proclamation – Maryland Flood Awareness Month – April 2023 – The Council presented a proclamation in recognition of April 2023 as “Maryland Flood Awareness Month – Know, Plan, Act” and urged Talbot County residents to remain vigilant and resilient and to always be up-to-date on weather forecasts so you KNOW the risk, MAKE a plan, and be ready to ACT on the plan. The proclamation was presented to Brennan Tarleton, Planning Officer, Bryce Yelton, Planner II, Brian LeCates, Director, Department of Emergency Services and Geneva Schaffle, Emergency Management Coordinator. Mr. Yelton provided an overview of the County’s Community Rating System (CRS) program, stressed the importance of flood insurance and encouraged residents to contact the Planning & Zoning Office for additional information.

Proclamation – Sexual Assault Awareness Month – April 2023 – The Council presented a proclamation in recognition of April 2023 as “Sexual Assault Awareness Month,” the purpose of which is to raise public awareness about sexual violence and to educate communities about how to prevent it. The proclamation noted that Talbot County supports the professionals who work to identify and prevent sexual violence and is dedicated to providing services and alternative avenues for survivors seeking proper care and treatment. The proclamation was presented to Katie Theeke, Vice President of Marketing & Communications, For All Seasons and Susan

Ahlstrom, MS, Trauma, Addictions, Mental Health and Recovery (TAMAR) Coordinator, For All Seasons.

Presentation of Revised Priority Listing to Maryland Department of Transportation – Ray Clarke, County Engineer and Mike Mertaugh, Roads Engineer presented Talbot County's priority listing which will be submitted to the Maryland Department of Transportation for their Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP). Topics included: MD Route 322/US 50 Intersection – North improvements; MD Route 33 Capacity, Safety and Evacuation Improvements; MD Route 33 Oxford Causeway improvements; MD Route 329 (Royal Oak Road) Safety Improvements; US Route 50/MD Route 328 – Goldsborough Street Intersection Improvements; MD Route 50/MD Route 331 – Dover Street Intersection Improvements; US Route 50/Chapel Road – Intersection Improvements; US Route 50/MD Route 309/MD Route 662 Intersection Capacity Improvements; and Easton Airport – Airfield Modernization Program. Mr. Clarke requested Council's consideration to include the Airport Road improvement project as a separate project as the County is currently looking into making improvements to the County owned portion of Airport Road and any intersection improvements. Mr. Clarke stated that he has contacted the municipalities and Easton Airport regarding specific projects they would like to include on the list prior to it being forwarded to the Maryland Department of Transportation. Council thanked Mr. Clarke for coordinating with the municipalities for their input on the listing. The priority listing as presented was approved, pending additions, upon motion by Mr. Leshner, second by Ms. Haythe and a vote of 5-0.

Introduction of Numbered Resolutions:

A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 911 FEE FOR TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND BY INCREASING THE FEE FROM \$0.75 PER MONTH TO \$1.50 PER MONTH was introduced by all Council members as Resolution No. 341. Brian LeCates, Director, Department of Emergency Services briefed Council on the purpose of the resolution and noted that the 911 fee was last increased in 2004. State law authorizes counties to impose a 911 fee on all phone lines to offset projected operational costs for the 911 center. If approved by Council, the fee increase would cover approximately 40% of the operational costs for the Talbot County 911 center. A public hearing on Resolution No. 341 will be held on Tuesday, April 25th at 6:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room located in the Talbot County Courthouse, South Wing, 11 North Washington Street, Easton.

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION BY THE TOWN OF EASTON, MARYLAND (THE "TOWN") OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF PORT STREET AT EASTON POINT, CONSISTING OF 4.743 ACRES OF LAND AND 0.156 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS (COLLECTIVELY, THE "PROPERTIES"), FINDING THAT THE PROPERTIES' PROPOSED REZONING FROM TALBOT COUNTY'S LIMITED INDUSTRIAL ("LI") ZONING TO THE TOWN'S MIXED-USE WATERFRONT ("MXW") ZONING UPON THEIR ANNEXATION WILL RESULT IN SUBSTANTIALLY DIFFERENT USES OR SUBSTANTIALLY HIGHER DENSITY, EXCEEDING 50%, THAN COULD BE GRANTED FOR PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT UNDER THE COUNTY'S LI ZONING, AND WAIVING THE FIVE-YEAR HOLD IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 4-416 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARTICLE OF THE

ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND was introduced by all Council members as Resolution No. 342. Patrick Thomas, County Attorney, briefed Council on the purpose of the resolution. The Town of Easton has introduced legislation to annex certain properties at Easton Point which are currently located within the County and have the LI zoning designation. The Town is proposing to assign the MXW zoning designation upon annexation which will result in a substantially higher density. Section 4-416 of the local government article of the Annotated Code of Maryland requires the County to grant a waiver of the five-year zoning hold in order for the Town to apply the MXW zoning designation. A public hearing on Resolution No. 341 will be held on Tuesday, May 9th at 6:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room located in the Talbot County Courthouse, South Wing, 11 North Washington Street, Easton.

Public Hearings:

A public hearing was held on Resolution No. 338, A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN (CWSP) FOR CONSISTENCY WITH DISCHARGE PERMIT NO. 19-DP-3460, ISSUED BY THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT ON OCTOBER 27, 2022 AND TO REQUIRE THAT ANY FUTURE EXPANSION OF THE NEW LAKESIDE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT SHALL REQUIRE AN AMENDMENT TO THE CWSP. Ray Clarke, County Engineer, noted that at the April 5th Planning Commission meeting, the Commission decided to table discussion until their May 3rd meeting. The Public Works Advisory Board recommended approval of the resolution by a vote of 3-0. Council left the record open on Resolution No. 338 until their May 9th meeting.

A public hearing was held on Resolution No. 339, A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN TO RECLASSIFY AND REMAP CERTAIN REAL PROPERTIES IN AND AROUND THE VILLAGES OF BAR NECK AND FAIRBANK FROM UNPROGRAMMED TO “S-1” IMMEDIATE PRIORITY STATUS FOR SEWER SERVICE FROM THE REGION V (TILGHMAN) WASTEWATER SYSTEM. Ray Clarke, County Engineer, noted that at the April 5th Planning Commission meeting, the Commission decided to table discussion until their May 3rd meeting. The Public Works Advisory Board will review the resolution at their meeting on April 20th. Council left the record open on Resolution No. 338 until their May 9th meeting.

A public hearing was held on Resolution No. 340, A RESOLUTION TO FORMALLY ACCEPT THE OFFER FROM TRIPPES CREEK, LLC TO DEDICATE JENNINGS ROAD TO PUBLIC USE AS A PUBLIC COUNTY ROAD, SAID ROAD BEING MORE PARTICULARLY SHOWN AND DESIGNATED AS “JENNINGS ROAD (50’ PUBLIC R/W)” ON A PLAT ENTITLED “LOT LINE ABANDONMENT & FINAL SUBDIVISION PLAT & FCP 2001-08 SCHWANINGER FARM AT COOKE’S HOPE IN THE FIRST ELECTION DISTRICT TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND TAX MAP 42 GRIDS 16 & 22 PARCELS 7, 21, 215,” DATED APRIL 22, 2002 (REVISED THROUGH SEPTEMBER 5, 2006), AND RECORDED AMONG THE PLAT RECORDS OF TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND IN LIBER M.A.S. NO. 82, PAGE 42, AND TO ACCEPT FEE SIMPLE TITLE TO THE SAME, FOR NO CONSIDERATION. Ray Clarke, County Engineer, noted that the County has been providing maintenance on the road since it was constructed and that it was built to County standards. If

approved, the resolution will formalize the County's acceptance of Jennings Road as noted on the official plat. Upon motion by Mr. Leshner, seconded by Ms. Haythe, the Council approved Resolution No. 340 by a vote of 5-0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – aye
Mr. Stepp – aye
Mr. Leshner – aye
Ms. Mielke – aye
Ms. Haythe – aye

Resolution No. 340 is effective immediately.

A public hearing was held on Bill No. 1528, A BILL TO AMEND CHAPTER 190 OF THE TALBOT COUNTY CODE (ZONING, SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT), SECTIONS 190-15 (CRITICAL AREA OVERLAY), 190-25.2 (TABLE OF LAND USES), 190-31 (MARINE USES), 190-33 (ACCESSORY USES), 190-50 (NONCONFORMING STRUCTURES), 190-58.2 (MINOR VARIANCES), AND 190-78 (TERMS DEFINED), REGARDING EROSION CONTROL MEASURES, PIERS, AND RIPARIAN STRUCTURES. Brennan Tarleton, Planning Officer, provided an overview of the proposed amendments and noted that the Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval of the proposed amendments at their January 2023 meeting. Bill No. 1528 will be eligible for vote on April 25, 2023.

County Manager's Report –

- Board and Committee Vacancies:
 - Commission on Aging - Mr. Stamp requested the appointment of Terry Satchell to the Commission on Aging. The request was unanimously approved by the Council.
 - Mr. Stamp noted that the County has a number of vacancies to fill on various boards and committees. If citizens are interested in serving please contact the County Manager's Office at 410-770-8010 or visit the County's website at [REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT - REVISED form 2022- Fillable.pdf \(talbotcountymd.gov\)](#). Vacancies currently exist on the following boards and committees:
 - Adult Public Guardianship Review Board
 - Agricultural Resolution Board
 - Animal Control Board
 - Board of Appeals
 - Board of Electrical Examiners
 - Commission on Aging
 - Historic Preservation Commission
 - Talbot County Local Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council
 - Talbot County Property Tax Assessment Appeals Board
- Request from Department of Economic Development & Tourism to Submit an Application for a Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Capital Grant for the Frederick Douglass Audio Driving Tour – Council unanimously approved the request from the Department of Economic Development and Tourism for a letter of support for their grant application to the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority for a non-capital grant in

the amount of \$50,000 to develop an audio version of the County's Frederick Douglass Driving Tour. The grant requires a \$50,000 match which may include a combination of cash and in-kind contributions. Kenneth Morris, Jr., great-great-great grandson of Frederick Douglass will donate his time for the project.

- Request from County Manager to Approve Second Amendment to Memorandum of Understanding between Caroline County, Kent County, Talbot County, and Delmarva Community Services, Inc. for Regional Public Transit Services – Council unanimously approved a second addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding between Caroline, Kent and Talbot counties and Delmarva Community Services, Inc. for regional public transit services. The agreement has been reviewed by legal counsel for each of the bodies.
- Request from County Manager to Declare Tuesday, April 18, 2023 as a Special Legislative Day – Council unanimously approved designating Tuesday, April 18, 2023 as a Special Legislative Day for the purpose of introducing the FY24 annual budget and appropriation ordinance. The meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m.

The County Council's next legislative meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 18th beginning at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.



Presentation of "Talbot Day – April 25th" Proclamation with Council and audience members

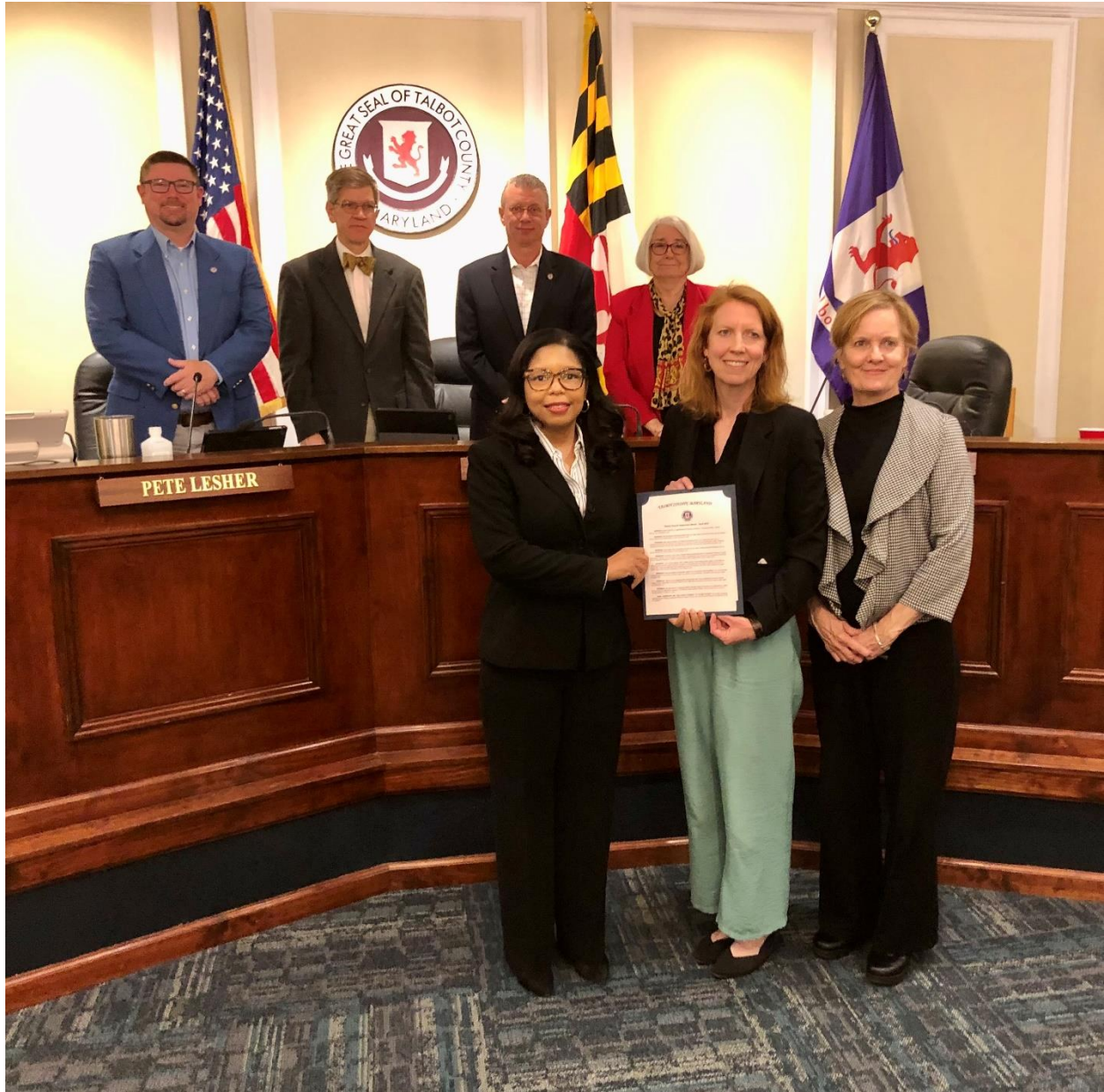


Presentation of “Maryland Flood Awareness Month – April 2023”

Left to right:

Front row: Geneva Schaffle, Emergency Management Coordinator; Vice President Pete Leshar; Bryce Yelton, Planner II; Brian LeCates, Director, Department of Emergency Services; Brennan Tarleton, Planning Officer,

Back row: Council Member Dave Stepp; President Chuck Callahan; Council Member Lynn Mielke; Council Member Keasha Haythe



Presentation of “Sexual Assault Awareness Month – April 2023”

Left to right:

Front row: Council Member Keasha Haythe; Katie Theeke, Vice President of Marketing & Communications, For All Seasons; Susan Ahlstrom, MS, Trauma, Addictions, Mental Health and Recovery (TAMAR) Coordinator, For All Seasons

Back row: Council Member Dave Stepp; Vice President Pete Leshner; President Chuck Callahan; Council Member Lynn Mielke